

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAKAR 04942 041327Z

53

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02

OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 IGA-02 /131 W
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R 031556Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 00000

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 4942

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UN, US, EAID, ETRD, SG

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: SENEGALESE PRIME MINISTER DIOUF

COMMENTS ON KOREA/PUERTO RICO, REVERSE PREFERENCES,
AID PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER (ACTING HEAD OF STATE) DIOUF JULY 30 TO DISCUSS KOREA AND PUERTO RICO ISSUES ON EVE OF COLOMBO NAM SUMMIT. PRIME MINISTER SAID GOS WAS SEEKING MEANS TO BE HELPFUL TO US ON THESE QUESTIONS. DIOUF ALSO CONFIRMED GOVT'S INTENTION TO PHASE OUT REVERSE PREFERENCES TO EC, BUT SAID GOS WAS STILL STUDYING PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTING DECISION, PARTICULARLY IN EFFORT TO AVOID MAKING SENEGALESE CONSUMER BEAR BURDEN OF HIGHER TARIFFS FOR EC IMPORTS. DIOUF EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US AID, AND ANTICIPATED THAT BILATERAL TALKS ON PATTE D'OIE BUILDERS INTERNATIONAL PROJECT COULD COMMENCE IN SEPTEMBER. HE
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 DAKAR 04942 041327Z

WILL BE OUT OF COUNTRY AUGUST 10-31. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING CALL ON PRIME MINISTER ABDOU DIOUF, AMBASSADOR PROVIDED COPIES OF KOREAN PORTION OF SECRETARY'S JULY 22 SEATTLE SPEECH AND PRESIDENT FORD'S PUERTO RICO ARRIVAL STATEMENT. AMBASSADOR STRESSED IMPORTANCE US ATTACHED TO THOSE MATTERS, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT WE COULD COUNT ON SENEGAL'S SUPPORT IN DEALING WITH THEM IN INTERNATIONAL COUNCILS. REMINDING PRIME MINISTER OF CONTINUING DIALOGUE WE HAD MAINTAINED ON THESE ISSUES, MOST RECENTLY DURING VISIT BY GOVERNOR SCRANTON, AMBASSADOR SUMMARIZED TALKING POINTS FROM AIDES MEMOIRE ON PUERTO RICO AND KOREA CONTAINED IN STATE 181704, AS AMENDED BY STATE 188804. PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION AND SAID HE FELT THAT GOS WAS SEEKING MEANS TO BE HELPFUL TO US ON THESE QUESTIONS.

3. REVERSE PREFERENCES: AMBASSADOR RECALLED PREVIOUS WEEK'S MEETING (DAKAR 4738) IN WHICH MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS BABACAR BA HAD OUTLINED SENEGALESE PLANS TO OPEN ITSELF TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION BY PHASING OUT REVERSE PREFERENCES TO IMPORTS FROM EC. AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED SATISFACTION IN POTENTIAL BENEFITS BOTH TO SENEGALESE AND TO US, AND VOICED HOPE THAT DECISION WOULD BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED. DIOUF REPEATED BA'S EXPLANATION THAT LAW HAD BEEN VOTED WHICH WOULD CURTAIL REVERSE PREFERENCES. HE SAID GOS WAS STUDYING WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING LAW. HE ANTICIPATED THAT BY SEPTEMBER, GOS WOULD BE ABLE TO SPEAK MORE PRECISELY ON HOW PROCESS WOULD BE CARRIED THROUGH. DIOUF NOTED GOS CONCERN THAT, IF DUTY ON EUROPEAN IMPORTS WERE RAISED SUDDENLY TO STANDARD TARIFF LEVEL, SENEGALESE CONSUMER WOULD HAVE TO BEAR BURDEN OF INCREASED COSTS. GOS WAS SEEKING TO FIND MEANS TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM.

4. AID: PRIMEMINISTER SAID HE HAD REVIEWED LIST GIVING CURRENT STATUS OF USAID PROJECTS WHICH AMBASSADOR HAD PROVIDED EARLIER TO HIS CABINET DIRECTOR. DIOUF SAID HE WISHED TO EXPRESS GOS'S APPRECIATION FOR OUR INTEREST AND CONTINUING ASSISTANCE TO SENEGALESE DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID GOVERNMENT WAS STUDYING PROBLEM OF PATTE D'OIE/BUILDERS INTERNATIONAL. IN SEPTEMBER, AFTER HE HAD RETURNED FROM LEAVE, DIOUF FELT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DAKAR 04942 041327Z

GOS WOULD BE READY TO SIT DOWN WITH EMBASSY AND USAID TO DISCUSS MEANS OF MOVING AHEAD TO RESOLVE MATTER AS HE KNEW USG ALSO WISHED TO DO.

5. PRIME MINISTER'S ABSENCE: DIOUF SAID HE WOULD BE DEPARTING FOR EUROPE ON AUGUST 10, RETURNING TO SENEGAL ON 31ST.
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